

I have great pleasure in assuring you of the lively personal interest that I take in the just and equitable solution of all questions, and in renewing to you, &c.

The following is the Proclamation, to which allusion is made in the preceding despatch, and without date:

TO THE INHABITANTS OF HONOLULU.

A misunderstanding connected with the non-execution of a Treaty having existed, for some time, between France and the Hawaiian Islands, the undersigned, Rear Admiral de Tromelin, came to Honolulu in the hope of settling it amicably and pacifically. With this view, he sought an interview with the King in Council, offering to hear their reasons and discuss the question, with them, in a conciliatory spirit. The advisers of the King, against whose arbitrary and unconstitutional conduct, the Representatives of the great Powers, France, United States and Great Britain, had already protested in a collective address, on the 13 Dec. 1848, thereby binding their respective governments; refused to grant the conference demanded. It became therefore a part of the duty of the undersigned to forward to them an ultimatum which they have also rejected. In consequence thereof, the fort of Honolulu has been dismantled by the French forces, now in the harbour, but the Hawaiian flag still waves and will continue to wave over it. The undersigned, who neither aims at an occupation nor a Protectorate, for France, will hasten to withdraw with the forces under his command, the moment his just reclamations are attended to. In the mean time, it is his fixed resolve to respect, alike the interests of all Foreigners, no matter what their creed or country. As far as France is concerned, the convention signed in 1839 by Captain Laplace will form the basis of his relations with these Islands. According to this Treaty French merchandise of all kinds will be admitted at the uniform duty of 5 per cent.

LEGOARANT DE TROMELIN, Rear Admiral.

Admiral de Tromelin, to H. H. M. Min. For. Relations, Steam Corvette Gassendi, 27th August 1849, at 2 p. m.

Mr. the Minister, I have just received the answer with which you have honored me to-day, and by which you make known to me that the special Commissioners nominated by His Majesty King Kamehameha III. are Messrs. Gordon Hopkins, Esq., for their Secretary. I wish to make known to you that I fully agree to take two Commissioners, with whom I will treat alone and directly. Mr. the Consul Dillon will be present at the conference; he will have there a consulting voice, but not a deliberative one.

In consequence of your precious answer of to-day at mid-day, my letter written at the same hour becomes without an object. To-morrow, I will be on board the Gassendi, at 11 o'clock, precisely.

Receive, Mr. the Minister, &c. &c.

H. H. M. Min. For. Relations, to Admiral de Tromelin.

Delivered by the King's Commissioners to the Admiral, Aug. 28th, 1849.

Palace, 28th Aug., 1849, 9 a. m. Sir, I hope you will not consider it a discourtesy, in me, to send you the receipt of your despatches of yesterday, and express my sincere pleasure that you are fully satisfied with the selection that the King has made of Special Commissioners to confer with you this day.

I take the liberty of referring you to my Nos. 6, 7, and 8 to Mr. Consul Dillon; and I earnestly beg both you and him to infer no disrespect to either of you, personally, in my absence, as Minister of Foreign Relations, from those conferences with you, in consultation with M. Dillon, which I am fain to hope will be conducted in a spirit of equal justice, equity and respect, and will end in the restoration of that harmony and good understanding which we all surmise each other in desiring.

Receive, &c. &c.

On Tuesday, the 28th, at 11 o'clock a. m., the Commissioners appointed by His Majesty, accompanied by their honorary Secretary, repaired on board the war steamer "Gassendi," and after a conference of three hours, in which the Admiral stated that he did not charge the Hawaiian Government with any violation of the Treaty, but merely with placing a wrong interpretation upon its 6th article, relating to the duty to be laid upon brandy and other spirituous liquors of French origin, and in which the King's Commissioners stated their regret at the misunderstanding which had arisen in reference to the audience, which it was not the intention of the King to refuse, returned on shore, reported to His Majesty in Privy Council, asked and received further instructions. At six o'clock, they returned to the "Gassendi," and after another conference of four hours, came on shore without having been able to come to a satisfactory arrangement. The minutes of what transpired at these conferences, taken down in short hand, will be added, in the Appendix, if copied out in time. Meanwhile, the following document, duly authenticated by both parties, is printed.

Points of disagreement in the Conference of 28th Aug. 1849, between Rear Admiral de Tromelin, and Gerrit P. Judd and Wm. L. Lee, the King's Special Commissioners.

Admiral de Tromelin proposes to the Hawaiian Government to raise the duty on brandy and other spirituous liquors, to some per centage to be agreed upon by the conferences, naming as a fair duty eighty per cent.

The Commissioners offer to refer the question of duty on brandy and other spirituous liquors to the arrangement of France and the King's Special Commissioner in France, the Hawaiian Government giving a satisfactory guarantee that they will abide by the decision resulting from the decision of a neutral power upon all questions upon which France and the Special Commissioners cannot agree.

The Admiral answers that he is willing to refer to France the question of the duty on brandy, but to her alone, recognising no neutral power as an umpire. That if the government will give a guarantee in specie, say twenty thousand dollars, that all duty over the amount France may decide as just, he will wait one year or sixteen months from this day, the Hawaiian Government agreeing, in case the duty is not fixed by France at the expiration of that time, to consider the duty of 80 per cent. as the lawful one from this date, and refund the difference between that per centage and the duty collected, with interest from the time of collection.

The King's Commissioners object to the limit of time, and to leaving the whole thing to the decision of France alone. They state their desire for some umpire upon questions which cannot be settled by France and the Special Commissioner, to be named by France and the Commissioner.

The Admiral states that he cannot consent to the umpirage of a third Power, in any event whatever. But the Admiral adds that he will recommend a reference to some umpire, upon questions which France and the King's Special Commissioner cannot agree upon.

The Admiral further adds that he cannot proceed to discuss or arrange any of the other demands, unless the question relating to the duty on brandy and other spirituous liquors be first settled.

G. P. Judd, Commissioners. W. L. Lee, do. Read and approved, as exact.

LEGOARANT DE TROMELIN.

During these negotiations, the work of dismantling the Fort was progressing, and continued up to the 30th instant, a little past mid-day.

The Consul of France, to H. H. M. Min. Foreign Relations, Steam Corvette "Gassendi," Port of Honolulu, Aug. 29, 1849, (received at 1 p. m., of the 30th.)

Mr. the Minister, I have the honor of advising you that I have this morning with me two guards which I had believed it my duty to have, so long as it was permitted for me to have for the re-establishment of the good relations which the Hawaiian Government, in my said house of "Beauregard," valley of Nuuanu, I shall hold in consequence, agreeably to the official notice transmitted under the date of the 25th of this month, the Hawaiian Government responsible for all the damages which may happen to the said house, and to the furniture which it contains, from the preceding date.

Please to receive, &c. &c.

The receipt of the above was acknowledged by Mr. Wylie, on the 30th, at half-past 2 p. m.

From the Min. of Finance, to the Collector General, Palace, 29th Aug. 1849.

Sir, By command of the King in Privy Council, I hereby instruct you to grant certificates of ownership to any owner of cargo, or agent of any Hawaiian vessel, now seized and in the custody of Rear Admiral Tromelin.

This order is granted upon the promise of Rear Admiral Tromelin that upon such certificate being presented, the property on board Hawaiian vessels, seized by his orders, shall be released.

Your obedient servant, &c. &c.

From the Collector General, to the Min. of Finance, Honolulu, Aug. 29, 1849.

Sir, Agreeably to your written instructions of this day, I gave Mr. Bartow a certificate of ownership of a quantity of molasses and other cargo on board the schooner Louisa and Martha, which he informs me he presented to Rear Admiral de Tromelin, with a request to be permitted to land the said property belonging to Dr. Wood, an American citizen, and that the Admiral refused to allow him to land the same.

Most respectfully, &c. &c.

H. H. M. Min. For. Relations, to Admiral de Tromelin, Palace, Aug. 29, 1849, at 12 Noon.

Sir, I am commanded by the King to request of you the extension of time till three o'clock, this day, for a final reply to your last proposals to His Majesty's Commissioners.

You may depend upon a final reply by the hour named.

I renew the assurance, &c. &c.

Admiral de Tromelin, to H. H. M. Min. Foreign Relations, Steam Corvette, Gassendi, Aug. 29, 1849, at mid-day.

Mr. the Minister, I have this instant received the letter in which you request of me, in the name of the King, a prolongation of the delay until three o'clock in the afternoon, to-day, to make known to me the definitive answer of the Hawaiian Government to my proposals to the Commissioners of His Majesty.

I am pleased to grant this new delay, which I only grant with the view of exhausting the means of conciliation, so that if I be brought to employ force, I may say that I only did so after having tried all other means of good accord.

Receive, Mr. the Minister, &c. &c.

H. H. M. Min. Foreign Relations, to Admiral de Tromelin, Palace, Aug. 29, 1849, at 1 p. m.

Sir, I am directed by the King and Council to pass to you, officially, in the most respectful manner, copies of the enclosed Resolutions, fully sanctioned by the King and Council, for your acceptance, and to state His Majesty's belief that after this solemn offer all just occasion for war, or even reprisals, is completely removed, and the honor of France and your own fully covered, under the law of nations.

Hoping that you will take this view, I renew, &c. &c.

The following are the Resolutions of the King and Privy Council, alluded to in Mr. Wylie's preceding note:

Resolved, That the King and Government duly appreciate the disposition of Rear Admiral de Tromelin to settle the existing difficulties with His Majesty's Commissioners sent on board the "Gassendi." And that while the King and Government reserve their determination to adhere to the Treaty of the 26th of March, 1846, as it may be interpreted by the joint parties to its formation, until it be modified or superseded by a new treaty to which France shall consent, they deplore the necessity under which the Admiral considers himself placed of pressing the King and Government to an immediate decision in regard to the sense to be given to their determination, and they hereby empower the Minister of Foreign Relations to make to the Admiral the following propositions:

FIRST. That all pending difficulties be referred to the decision of the Government of France in concert with the King's special plenipotentiary; and, in case of non-agreement upon any point, to the final award of any friendly Power, to be named by France herself, the Hawaiian Government pledging the King and Council to the sense to be given to their determination, and they hereby empower the Minister of Foreign Relations to make to the Admiral the following propositions:

SECONDLY. That if the Admiral agree to this, a contract to the above effect be drawn up and signed by him and the King's Commissioners. THIRDLY. That having made these proposals, the King of the Hawaiian Islands solemnly declares that he has done all in his power and ability to settle the existing difficulties, and existing engagements with France, can be justly required of him as necessary to satisfy the honor of France and of the Admiral; and that after this offer, securing and guaranteeing the most ample reparation upon all points, as France herself, or the umpire of her own choice, may pronounce just, the King believes that all just cause for war or even reprisals, under the law of Nations, is entirely removed.

(Signed.) KAMEHAMEHA, [L. S.] KEONI ANA, By the King and the Premier.

R. C. WYLIE, Min. For. Relations.

Admiral de Tromelin, to H. H. M. Min. Foreign Relations, (Translation corrected by Admiral de Tromelin.)

"La Poursuivante," 30th Aug. 1849.

Mr. the Minister, In answer to the communication with which you have honored me to-day, and by which are terminated the conferences at which the undersigned Commissioners nominated by His Majesty King Kamehameha III. came to assist, I inform you herewith a definitive declaration, according to which it only remains to me to give an account to the Government of the French Republic of my measures, and of the obstinacy of your Government.

As you will see in the note annexed, the sch. "Kamehameha" only will be seized, and the owners of other vessels provisionally detained, may resume possession of them from this date, and to the really culpable, the responsibility and the punishment of acts, to the accomplishment of which, neither foreign commerce, nor Hawaiian individuals have contributed.

I express to you, here, Mr. the Minister, the regret which I experience in seeing, contrary to my hopes, the question that divides us so painfully resolved, to the discontent of both parties, and I renew, here, the assurance, &c. &c.

Admiral de Tromelin, to H. H. M. Min. Foreign Relations, (Translation corrected by Admiral de Tromelin.)

"La Poursuivante," 30th Aug. 1849.

The undersigned, Rear Admiral, Commander-in-Chief of the Naval Forces of the French Republic.

The Admiral had restricted the time to 12 noon, precisely. As the French despatches had to be translated, and then rendered into Hawaiian, the time left for deliberation was very short.

public, in the Pacific Ocean, has received, yesterday at three o'clock, the resolution of the Hawaiian Government, taken in Council and signed by the hand of King Kamehameha III., and relative to the differences which exist on the subject of the interpretation and execution of the Treaty of the 26th of March, 1846.

The propositions made by the Hawaiian Government not being acceptable, for the reason that it persists in wishing to submit France to the arbitration of a third power, whilst previously, in analogous circumstances, it has not persisted in such a pretension towards England, the undersigned, agreeably to the orders of the French Government, notifies to the Hawaiian Government, that counting from this day, the thirtieth of August, eighteen hundred and forty-nine, at mid-day, the Treaty of the 26th of March, 1846, not being loyally executed by it, is declared null and void, and that, from this day, the two nations, French and Hawaiian, return, respectively, under the empire of the Convention concluded the 12th and 17th July, 1839, between Capt. Laplace and King Kamehameha III.

And, considering that in consequence of the erroneous interpretation that the Hawaiian Government persists in giving to the treaty of the 26th of March, 1846, it has exercised against the French Republic, and the commerce of France, exactions which have been protested against, to no effect, by competent official parties, and because it persists in the same courses, the undersigned, by way of reprisals and in order to have some guarantees of indemnity and reparation of damages occasioned to France, notifies here to the Hawaiian Government that he will cause to be seized and captured all the properties of this government, which shall fall into his power, respecting always the property of private individuals, because the undersigned does not wish to make Hawaiian subjects responsible for the faults of the counsellors of their King.

It is for this reason that he confines himself, to-day, to disarm the Fort at Honolulu, and to-day, definitively, the schooner "Kamehameha," the only one of the vessels actually under the dominion of the Hawaiian Government.

The undersigned declares this government responsible, (solidairement) and personally, for all damages which may be occasioned to French citizens present in the Hawaiian Archipelago, whether in their persons or their property; and he reserves besides to the French Government to pursue, by the means which it shall judge proper, the complete reparation of all their grievances.

H. H. M. Min. For. Relations, to H. B. M's. Consul General, Foreign Office, Aug. 25, 1849, passed at 2 p. m.

(Separate and urgent.)

Sir, The King, my master, commands me to convey to you for your information and for that of your government, as a joint party to the solemn engagement of the 25th Nov., 1843, and to the Treaty of the 26th March, 1846, the enclosed copies of the peremptory demands made on the 24th instant by the Admiral and Consul of France, and of the replies to the same, which I have sent in by His Majesty's Commissioners. I must enjoin upon you that any consequences which may ensue endangering the lives and properties of British subjects, which His Majesty will protect so long as His Sovereign Authority and the empire of his laws are respected. When that period ceases, His Majesty's power to protect will cease also, and it will be for you as the representative of Her Britannic Majesty, to act as you may consider to be necessary.

It may be of importance to you to know that by command of the King, I have addressed on the 24th instant, by the James Munroe, a request in His Majesty's name, through His Commissioner in London, for the friendly mediation of the British Government with that of France, in regard to all demands made, or that may be made upon this Government by the Consul and Admiral of the French Republic; and to obtain this favor, the King commands me to request your good offices.

With the highest respect and consideration, I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient and humble servant.

R. C. WYLIE.

Wm. Miller, Esq., H. B. M's. Consul General.

N. B.—In case the mediation of the British Government should be objected to, or should be declined by them, a similar note with a similar intent is now passed to the Consul of the United States. The King engages to ratify and abide by the award of the British Government, or of the President of the United States, acting either solely or jointly, on all points of dispute between the Hawaiian Government and the French Republic, and to obtain this favor, the King commands me to request your good offices.

A similar letter was addressed to Joel Turfill, Esq., Consul of the United States, with the same enclosures.

H. H. M. Min. For. Relations, to Admiral de Tromelin, Foreign Office, Aug. 31, 1849, at 1 p. m.

Sir, I am directed to apprise you that notwithstanding official notifications by Mr. Consul Dillon, under dates 25th and 29th inst., proposing to throw upon this Government the responsibility of the safeguard, from the former date, of his house and furniture in Nuuanu valley, and Chancellerie, in Honolulu, but without offering either inventory, or survey, or appraisal, or even the keys, it has just been made known to the King in Council, that M. Dillon, personally, and through his agents, has re-entered upon and resumed possession of both of the premises above named.

I am however, authorized, fully by the King and Council, to declare to you that so far as His Majesty's now crippled means will allow, the persons and properties of every French citizen, and all French vessels and citizens arriving at any of his ports, will remain just as safe, and be as carefully protected as they were before the REPRISALS that you have resorted to, and as the persons and properties of the subject French citizens of the French Republic, now are.

I renew the assurance, &c. &c.

Admiral de Tromelin, to H. H. M. Min. Foreign Relations, "La Poursuivante," 30th Aug. 1849.

Mr. the Minister, I have the honor of acknowledging the receipt of the despatches of the 29th and 30th inst., and of the four enclosures which they contained.

As the question now stands, I consider it useless to re-enter here and hereafter in a discussion the results of which can never replace us in our respective situations where we were before these last affairs. To the French Government alone it belongs now to discuss and to decide.

I renew here, &c. &c.

H. B. M's. Consul General, to H. H. M. Min. For. Rel.

H. B. M's. Consul General, to H. H. M. Min. For. Rel., Honolulu, Aug. 27, 1849.

Sir, I have to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 25th instant, in which, by order of the King, you enclosed to me, for my information, and that of the British Government as a joint party to the declaration signed in London the 28th of Nov., 1843, and to the Treaty of the 26th of March, 1846, copies of the peremptory demands made on the 24th inst. by the Admiral and Consul of France, and of the reply to the same by His Majesty's command.

You, at the same time, inform me that the Hawaiian Commissioner in London had been instructed to solicit the friendly mediation of the British Government with that of France, in regard to all demands made, or that may be made upon this Government by the Admiral and Consul of the French Republic; and that in case the British Government should be objected to or declined, a note has been passed to the Consul of the United States with a view to obtain a similar friendly mediation of the American Government; and, ultimately, that the King engaged to ratify and abide by the award of the British Government, or of the President of the United States, acting either solely or jointly, on all points that may not be agreed upon between the French Government and the Hawaiian

Special Commissioner now on his way to Paris.

In reply, I have the honor to state, for the information of the King and his Government, that having received a notification from Admiral de Tromelin, dated the 23rd inst., that it was his intention to resort to coercive measures, unless he obtained a satisfactory answer to his demands, the precise nature of which I was already aware of, I considered it, under all the existing circumstances, expedient and proper in my reply, to manifest the view I entertained as to the course usually adopted in the event of any infraction of a Treaty, namely, that the resident Consul, or diplomatic agent, of the party aggrieved first re-protested against the evil complained of, referring the question to his government for their determination.

Actuated by a sincere desire to co-operate in all my power to bring the points in dispute to a peaceable termination, I, as the British Representative here, offered to guarantee, if required, the execution by this Government of the decision which might be come to in Paris.

Detachments of French armed seamen having, however, taken possession of the Fort and Government offices of Honolulu, I have considered it further my duty to protest, and I have this day formally protested, to the French Admiral against the occupation of the Fort and Government offices by the forces under his command, as a violation of the Mutual Agreement of the 29th Nov. 1843, by which the British and French Governments reciprocally pledged themselves never to take possession, either directly or under the title of Protectorate, or under any other form, of any part of the Territory of the Sandwich Islands.

I have, moreover, addressed, and forwarded with the protest, a letter to Admiral de Tromelin in which I have given at some length, the view I have been constrained to take with respect to his hostile proceedings, and to the nature of his demands, especially of those which relate to the reduction of the duty upon spirituous liquors to 50 per cent. *ad valorem*, and the adoption of the French language in business intercourse between the Custom House and other Hawaiian Government offices and French citizens; and I cannot persuade myself that the view which I have thus taken and conveyed in a friendly manner to Admiral de Tromelin, will fail to have some weight in conducing to an amicable termination of the existing differences.

With assurances of high consideration, &c.

The Consul of the U. S., to H. H. M. Min. For. Relations, United States Consulate, Honolulu, Aug. 25, 1849.

Sir, I have the honor of acknowledging the receipt of your despatch, bearing even date herewith, enclosing copies of the peremptory demands, made on the 24th inst., by the Admiral and the Consul of France, and of the replies to the same, and informing me that you had, by command of the King, requested, in His Majesty's name, through His Special Commissioner, Jas. Jackson Jarves, Esq., for the friendly mediation of His Excellency the President of the United States with the Government of France, in regard to all demands made, or that may be made upon this Government by the Consul and Admiral of the French Republic, and to obtain this favor, the King commands me to request your good offices.

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